

143. MACHETES PUGNAX (Linn.).

*Totanus pugnax* Reich. i. p. 216.

a, b. [♂ ♀.] Lake Naivasha. (Nos. 205, 207.)

[Ruffs and Reeves were common on the shores of Lake Naivasha.—A. B. P.]

144. PODICIPES CAPENSIS Licht.

*Colymbus capensis* Reich. i. p. 18.

a. ♂ juv. Mombasa, 26th Aug., 1900. (No. 7.)

This is quite a young bird, with the sides of the face and throat white, streaked and blotched with brown; the rufous feathers are just making their appearance.

145. COLUMBA GUINEA (Linn.).

*Columba guinea* Reich. i. p. 401.

a. Mt. Kilimanjaro, 18th Jan., 1902. (No. 250.)

[Multitudes of these Pigeons came to drink at a water-hole near Kilimanjaro.—A. B. P.]

146. EXCALFACTORIA ADANSONI (Verr.).

*Excalfactoria adansoni* Reich. i. p. 509.

a. [♀.] Mombasa, Sept. 1900. (No. 14.)

### XXXII.—*Proceedings of the Fifth International Congress of Ornithologists.*

THE Fifth International Congress of Ornithologists was held this year at Berlin under the presidency of Professor Anton Reichenow. A meeting, to enable the members who had already arrived to renew their acquaintanceship, was held on Sunday evening, the 29th of May, in the Landwehr Offizier-Kasino, Hardenbergstrasse, close to the Zoological Gardens, where most of the subsequent gatherings were also held. But the first formal meeting took place in the Grand Saloon of the Zoological Gardens in the forenoon of the 30th of May, when Professor Reichenow gave an excellent address on the progress of ornithology during the last one hundred and fifty years, and on its present state. Prior to the President's Address the election of officers for the meeting took place,

hen the King of Bulgaria and the Princess Theresa of Bavaria were made Honorary Presidents of the Congress, and the following gentlemen were elected Vice-Presidents — Director Otto Herman, Count Arrigoni degli Oddi, Mr. Buturlin, Mr. H. E. Dresser, Professor Lönnberg, Dr. Svétlik, Baron Snouckaert van Schauburg, and M. Ternier. One of these, Mr. Buturlin, was unable to attend the Congress.

The Sections were arranged as follows :—

- (i.) *Anatomy, Palæontology, Classification, and Geographical Distribution.* Presidents: the Hon. Walter Rothschild, Dr. E. Hartert, and Dr. Ménégaux.
- (ii.) *Migration.* Presidents: Director Otto Herman, Dr. Reiser, and Dr. Parrot.
- (iii.) *Biology, Oology, Acclimatization, and Aviculture.* Presidents: Amtsrat A. Nehrkorn, Dr. Büttikofer, and the Rev. F. C. R. Jourdain.
- (iv.) *Bird-Protection.* Presidents: Freiherr von Berlepsch, Herr von Kazy, and Dr. Carl Hennicke.
- (v.) *Poultry and Poultry-rearing.* Presidents: Herr Burchard, Herr Bähr, and Herr von Gontscharoff.

The meetings of these five sections commenced on Tuesday, the 31st of May, with a paper by Dr. Hartert (in Section i.) on the duties of scientific ornithologists, more especially with regard to the descriptions of new forms or subspecies.

The meetings were continued every day until the 4th of June. Amongst the papers read were the following :—The Hon. Walter Rothschild on the present and former distribution of the *Ratitæ*; Count Hans von Berlepsch on a revision of the *Tanagridæ*; Baron Harold Loudon on the birds observed by him in Transcaspia in 1908–1909; the Rev. F. C. R. Jourdain on birds observed in Corsica and in the Dobrudscha; Professor Koenig on a journey to the Sudan in the spring of the present year, where he obtained much information respecting the ornithology of that country; Mr. Otto Bamberg on the breeding of *Turdus ruficollis* in Mongolia; Dr. van Oort on a small collection of birds

obtained by Dr. Lorentz in New Guinea, amongst which were examples of some species not yet described; and Oberlehrer W. Capek on a large series of Cuckoo's eggs, of which he possesses six hundred specimens.

Migration was very fully discussed in the second Section. Ritter von Tschusi zu Schmidhofen was unfortunately prevented by illness from attending the Congress, but sent a paper on the incursion of Crossbills in 1909. Dr. Hugo Weigold, of Heligoland, proposed to establish a Bird-observatory on that island, on the same lines as that of Rossitten, and gave a description of the island as it was in Gätke's time and as it now is. Capt. von Lucanus went fully into the question of the altitude which birds attain on migration, and stated his opinion that they do not travel at so great a height as had been surmised by Gätke. Director Otto Herman gave particulars of the work done by the Royal Hungarian Ornithological Bureau of Budapest, and Dr. Rössler, of Agram, gave an account of what has been done by the Croatian Ornithological Bureau. Dr. Thienemann, the Director of the Observatory at Rossitten, contributed particulars of the results obtained by marking different birds in order to ascertain their routes of migration, and where they go to in the winter. Dr. Jacob Schenck gave details of the investigations carried on at Budapest respecting migration, and remarks on the same subject were made by other Members.

Bird-protection was most fully discussed by Mr. Dutcher, Mr. James Buckland, Dr. Rörig, Dr. Heuss, and others, and Dr. Heuss and Mr. Buckland strongly advocated the necessity of establishing an international union for bird-protection in all countries. Frau van Hoorde spoke of ladies' fashions with regard to bird-protection, and Professor Schillings urged strongly the advisability of prohibiting the importation of the skins and feathers of birds for decorative purposes. After considerable discussion it was finally decided to constitute a permanent International Union for the protection of birds in civilized countries, and the following members were elected to serve on it:—*Austria*, Professor Schweder;

*Belgium*, Dr. Dubois; *Denmark*, Lieut.-Col. Mehrn; *France*, M. Ternier and Dr. Ménégau; *Germany*, Baron von Berlepsch and Baron von Gebattel; *Great Britain*, Lord Avebury and Mr. Buckland; *Holland*, Mr. F. van Vollenhoven and Dr. Ritzma-Bos; *Hungary*, Mr. Chernel von Chernelháza; *Italy*, Count Arrigoni degli Oddi; *Norway*, Oberhofstallmeister Sverdrup; *Russia*, Mr. Stoll; *Sweden*, Professor Lönnberg; *United States*, Mr. Dutcher and Dr. Palmer.

In Section 5 three papers were read; of these that by Herr Dozent B. Düringen was important, as it treated the question of poultry-rearing from a scientific point of view.

On Saturday the 4th of June, after some discussion, it was decided that the next International Ornithological Congress should be held at Sarajevo, Bosnia, in 1915, under the Presidency of Herr C. Reiser, of the Bosnian National Museum of Natural History, of which he is the Keeper.

On the 30th of May the German Ornithological Society arranged a steamboat-excursion from Spandau to the Havelsee and Wannsee, and gave an excellent supper at the Hôtel Bürgers Hof opposite the Barbelsberg Park. On the 1st of June the city of Berlin gave an entertainment at the Rathaus, which was very fully attended. On the 2nd of June the Berlin Zoological Society offered a lunch at the Zoological Gardens to the Members of the Congress, and a supper was also given there on the following evening. Besides these expeditions others were arranged to the Spreewald, to Baron von Berlepsch's bird-protection station at Schloss Seebach, and to the Kurische Nehrung, under the guidance of Dr. Thienemann. Moreover, all Members of the Congress were offered free admission to the Zoological Gardens during their stay in Berlin.

It need scarcely be added that the whole proceedings were so well carried out that the Fifth International Ornithological Congress was unanimously pronounced to have been a great success.—H. E. D.